

Message Text

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 29538 ACTION KATHMANDU COLOMBO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029538

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 029538 ACTION ISLAMABAD INFO
NEW DELHI KABUL DACCA TEHRAN LONDON USUN NEW YORK
BUCHAREST 8 FEBRUARY.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: BHUTTO VISIT WRAPUP

1. THE BHUTTO VISIT FEBRUARY 4-7 WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL BOTH
IN TONE AND SUBSTANCE AND PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF ESTAB-
LISHING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BHUTTO AND PRESIDENT FORD.
THE VISIT SERVED AS A VISIBLE DEMONSTRATION THAT RELATIONS
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REMAIN CLOSE AND MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE DESPITE THE CHANGE IN

ADMINISTRATIONS AND OUR IMPROVED TIES WITH INDIA. BHUTTO ALSO HAD A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS PAKISTAN'S VIEWPOINT ON IMPORTANT QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ARMS, IN HIS TALKS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION, THE PRESS, AND INFLUENTIAL CONGRESSMEN.

2. IN ADDITION TO HIS 70-MINUTE MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, BHUTTO HAD BOTH A WORKING LUNCHEON AND A PRIVATE MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE ALSO MET SEPARATELY WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT AND WITH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER. BOTH THE SENATE AND HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES ARRANGED WELL-ATTENDED SPECIAL SESSIONS FOR THE PM, AND HE HELD PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH SENATORS SPARKMAN, HUMPHREY, KENNEDY, JAVITS, PERCY, JACKSON AND CHURCH AMONG OTHERS FROM THE HILL. IN ADDITION TO THE WHITE HOUSE DINNER, BHUTTO HOSTED A LARGE DINNER AT THE SHOREHAM AT WHICH THE VICE PRESIDENT WAS THE GUEST OF HONOR. BHUTTO LEFT

FEBRUARY 7 FOR NYC, WHERE HE WAS THE GUEST OF DAVID ROCKEFELLER FOR LUNCH THAT DAY, AND OF MAYOR BEAME THE FOLLOWING DAY. HE LEAVES FEBRUARY 8 IN THE EVENING EN ROUTE TO ROMANIA.

3. BHUTTO EXPOUNDED HIS VIEWS ON ARMS SUPPLY ALONG FAMILIAR LINES BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY. THE PRESIDENT AGREED TO GIVE THE MATTER OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO ON SALES OF LETHAL EQUIPMENT HIS "ACTIVE CONSIDERATION." THERE WAS A FULL DISCUSSION OF THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY CONTEXT WITHIN WHICH ANY DECISION WOULD BE MADE AND WITHIN WHICH ANY POSSIBLE FUTURE U.S. ARMS POLICY WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED. THE WHITE HOUSE PUT ON THE PUBLIC RECORD THREE IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES IN THIS REGARD: "ONE, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT CONTRIBUTE TO AN ARMS RACE IN SOUTH ASIA; TWO, THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT DO ANYTHING THAT WILL ALTER THE STRATEGIC BALANCE IN THAT AREA; AND THREE, THE UNITED STATES HAS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION IN SOUTH ASIA." BHUTTO STRESSED IN ALL FORA BOTH PAKISTAN'S MODEST MEANS AND ITS PRIORITY INTEREST IN DEFENSIVE EQUIPMENT SUCH AS SAMS AND TOW ANTI-TANK MISSILES.

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4. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE HERE, BHUTTO STATED THAT QUESTION OF A U.S. BASE IN PAKISTAN WAS NOT DISCUSSED DURING THIS VISIT NOR HAD HE PREVIOUSLY OFFERED ANY BASES (AS HAD BEEN EARLIER REPORTED BY DREW MIDDLETON IN NYT). BHUTTO ADDED ON DIEGO GARCIA THAT PAKISTAN CANNOT PREVENT SUPER-POWERS FROM PURSUING THEIR OWN POLICY IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

5. THERE WAS A FULL DISCUSSION OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE SUBCONTINENT. IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COMMENTS, BHUTTO EMPHASIZED HIS COMMITMENT TO THE SIMLA PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH INDIA. HE WAS EMPHATIC IN STATING THAT PAKISTAN HAS TURNED AWAY FROM CONFRONTATION WITH INDIA. BHUTTO DID ASSERT, BOTH TO THE SECRETARY AND ON THE HILL, THAT THE PROJECTED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN MRS. GANDHI AND THE KASHMIRI MUSLIM LEADER SHEIKH ABDULLAH WOULD REPRESENT A SETBACK TO THE SIMLA PROCESS. HE NOTED PRIVATELY TO THE SECRETARY HOWEVER HIS HOPE THAT THE INDIANS WOULD NOT REGARD PAKISTANI REACTION, WHICH WOULD BE CAREFULLY CONTROLLED, AS A DEPARTURE FROM HIS COMMITMENT TO PEACEFUL RELATIONS.

6. ON AFGHANISTAN, BHUTTO ACKNOWLEDGED THAT RELATIONS HAD IMPROVED SOMEWHAT. HE INDICATED THAT HE THOUGHT A MEETING COULD BE ARRANGED WITH AFGHAN PRESIDENT DAOUD, BUT HE GAVE NO DETAILS.

7. THE SECRETARY TRANSMITTED TO BHUTTO A MESSAGE FROM BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER KAMAL HOSSAIN EXPRESSING BDG HOPES FOR A DIALOGUE WITH PAKISTAN ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. BHUTTO REPLIED THAT PAKISTAN CONTINUED TO BE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS AT ANY TIME. BHUTTO GAVE NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS ANY IMMEDIATE INITIATIVES IN MIND.

8. IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE HERE, BHUTTO SAID PAKISTAN WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER PLACING ITS NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS IF PAKISTAN HAD ACCESS TO CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS NEEDED FOR ITS SECURITY. WE HAVE PRIVATELY WELCOMED INDICATIONS OF BHUTTO'S WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER FULL INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS IN ITS NUCLEAR

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DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

9. DISCUSSION OF ECONOMIC ISSUES FOCUSED ENTIRELY ON PAKISTAN'S FOOD IMPORT REQUIREMENTS. BHUTTO WAS INFORMED OF ADDITIONAL FY 75 ALLOCATIONS OF 300,000 TONS OF P.L.480 TITLE I WHEAT. THIS BRINGS TO 400,000 TONS THE TOTAL CONCESSIONAL SALES TO PAKISTAN THIS FISCAL YEAR. THE ADDITIONAL ALLOCATION WAS ANNOUNCED DURING THE VISIT.

10. THE TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED ON FEBRUARY 7 AT THE CONCLUSION OF BHUTTO'S WASHINGTON STAY IS CARRIED ON THE WIRELESS FILE.

UNQUOTE KISSINGER UNQTE INGERSOLL

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